



Winter 2020

12TH DISTRICT MILWAUKEE COUNTY SUPERVISOR

SYLVIA ORTIZ-VELEZ

COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Judiciary, Safety and General Services, Vice Chair • Transportation, Public Works and Transit, Vice Chair
Parks, Energy, and Environment • Combined Community Services Board



DEAR NEIGHBOR,

We would like to wish a happy holidays and good health to you and your friends and family during these trying times. COVID-19 has made things difficult for everyone and that includes our County government. Although the pandemic has affected many of our County services, we have continued to be hard at work navigating through these unprecedented times.

Please read over this newsletter to see some updates on some of the things that have been happening at the County Board and Milwaukee's South Side.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Ortiz-Velez - Milwaukee County Supervisor, District 12

FREE COMMUNITY COVID TESTING

Free COVID-19 testing is available for anyone, regardless of symptoms. Drive-thru, walk-up, or take the free Miller Park shuttle.

Please visit www.milwaukee.gov/covidtesting for the most up-to-date testing information. See the graphic at the right for current locations and times.

- Drive-thru lines may close at 5 p.m. to ensure that tests are completed by 6 p.m.
- Shuttle busses pick up passengers along the route downtown, bringing them to the testing site.
- Shuttle busses start at 10:30 a.m. and end by 6 p.m. (returning any passengers to the stops they boarded at).
- Currently running two shuttles – Lamers buses – that run continuously while the testing site is open.
- Masks are required on the shuttle and strict social distancing is enforced.
- While this is NOT a Milwaukee County Transit System route, the Miller Park Shuttle follows the old Brewers Line that MCTS formerly ran.

DRIVE-THRU

COVID-19 TESTING

FREE - NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED

City of Milwaukee Community Testing Sites

- **Northwest Health Center (NWHC), 7630 W. Mill Road**
Drive-thru garage – Enter at Mill Road Library, 6431 N. 76th St.
- **Southside Health Center (SSHC), 1639 S. 23rd St.**
Drive-thru heated tent – North parking lot
- **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am-3pm**
Wednesday 10am-6pm

Milwaukee County Community Testing Site

- **Miller Park – 1 Brewers Way**
Monday-Friday, 11am-6pm
Saturday 9am-3pm

Drive-thru, walk up or take the free downtown shuttle

Saturday hours start Nov. 21

milwaukee.gov/covidtesting
#MKECares #StaySafeMKE

CITY OF MILWAUKEE

CITY OF MILWAUKEE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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2021 MILWAUKEE COUNTY BUDGET

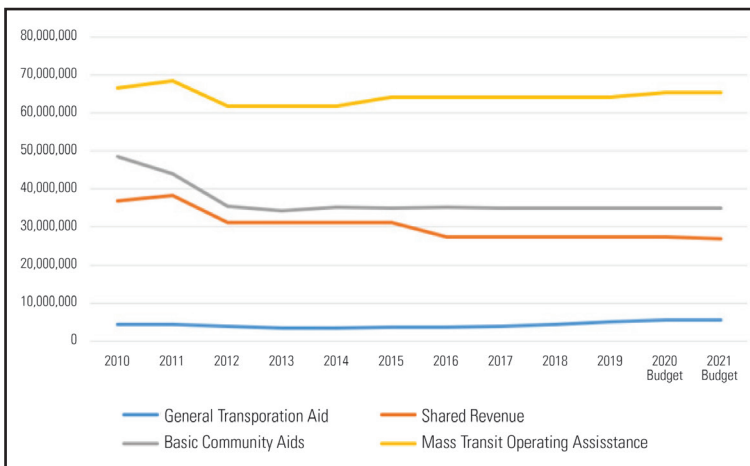
Milwaukee County's structural deficit makes every budget difficult, but COVID-19 made 2021's budget the most challenging. Because of shutdowns, the County lost millions of dollars in revenues. The loss of revenues, on top of the continuing disproportionate revenue sharing system from the State makes it increasingly difficult to have a balanced budget.

However, Supervisor Ortiz-Velez along with fellow Supervisors were still able to come together on a "super-amendment" to the County Executive's budget which allocated funding for vital services like housing, youth and family services and parks.

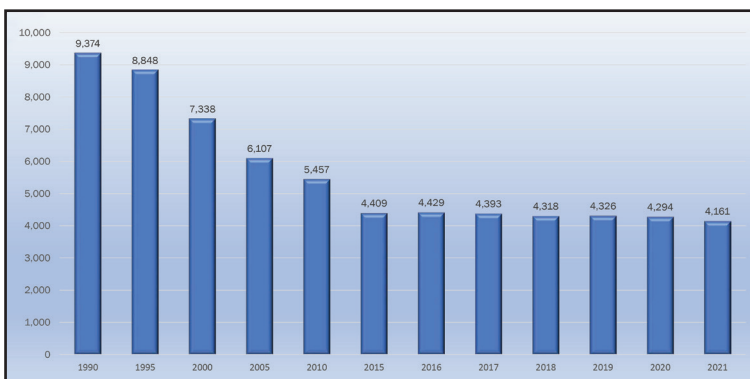
The Board was also able to amend the budget to keep the Mitchell Park Domes open and operational year-round as well as fund a new position to analyze tax credits to help re-store and repair the facility.

These graphs show the declining financial contributions from the State as well as the large decrease in the number of County employees over the years. The significant reductions in State aid and reduction in county staff makes it harder for goals to be met when it comes to vital county services.

FEWER LOCAL DOLLARS FOR LOCAL PRIORITIES TRENDS IN STATE AID TO MILWAUKEE COUNTY, 2010-2021



FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS 1990 TO 2021 BUDGET



DYANGO ZERPA



Supervisor Ortiz-Velez and Dyango Zerpa speaking prior to a meeting of the Milwaukee County Board.

Dyango Zerpa has served the south side as the Legislative Aide for District 12 since June of 2018. As a Clarke Square resident of Milwaukee's South Side, he not only works for the District, but is also a community stakeholder.

With over 4 years of legislative experience from Milwaukee City Hall and the Milwaukee County courthouse combined, his knowledge of government programs and processes is extremely valuable to our community. As the Legislative Staffer of the District 12 office, Dyango Zerpa has assisted constituents with solving problems in many south side neighborhoods, organized town halls and various community meetings and cleanup initiatives as well as assisted in the drafting of budget amendments and legislation that has brought numerous benefits to South Side.

Dyango is available during regular business hours with any questions, concerns and comments you may have.



Dyango Zerpa
*Legislative Aide to
Milwaukee County
Supervisor Sylvia
Ortiz-Velez*

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RENTAL AND ENERGY ASSISTANCE

ENGLISH

WRAP Rental Assistance Program (State Funding) – Social Development Commission

A state funded program assisting residents who need help paying rent or obtaining a security deposit to secure a house.
www.cr-sdc.org/services/residential-services/wrap

Rental Assistance Community Advocates (Public and Private Funds)

An organization that holds public and private contracts to administer rent assistance through the Rental Housing Resource Center to tenants who are facing eviction. communityadvocates.net/what-we-do/rent-assistance.html

Energy Assistance Community Advocates

Eligible county residents can apply for a one-time payment to help cover a portion of their energy bills, as well as other benefits to help reduce their utility costs. communityadvocates.net/what-we-do/energy-assistance.html

Energy Assistance UMOs

Qualified Milwaukee residents can receive a one-time annual payment to make heating and electric bills more affordable. For additional information on how to apply for Home Energy Assistance, go to one of the links below:

English: county.milwaukee.gov/files/county/DHHS/EnergyAssistance/MKEAPPLYSHEETNOBLEED.pdf

Spanish: county.milwaukee.gov/files/county/DHHS/EnergyAssistance/MKEAPPLYSHEETSPANISHNOBLEED.pdf

Hmong: county.milwaukee.gov/files/county/DHHS/EnergyAssistance/JULANDAUGMKEAPPLYINFOSHEETHMONGAPRIL2020.pdf

Wisconsin Foreclosure Mediation Network

Wisconsin Foreclosure Mediation Network offers a free, private meeting where landlords and tenants work with a mediator who helps them find solutions to problems they are having related to the rental agreement and/or rental property.

mediatewisconsin.com/tenants-landlords

Milwaukee Justice Center

MJC is offering a variety of information and tools to make sure residents are informed on their options when facing eviction or having other landlord issues. mediatewisconsin.com/tenants-landlords

ESPAÑOL

WRAP Rental Assistance Program (Fondos Estatales) – Social Development Commission

Un programa financiado por el estado que ayuda a los residentes que necesitan ayuda para pagar el alquiler u obtener un depósito de seguridad para asegurar una casa. www.cr-sdc.org/services/residential-services/wrap

Rental Assistance Community Advocates (Fondos Públicos y Privados)

Una organización que tiene contratos públicos y privados para administrar asistencia de alquiler a través del Centro de Recursos de Vivienda de Alquiler a los inquilinos que se enfrentan al desalojo.

communityadvocates.net/what-we-do/rent-assistance.html

Energy Assistance Community Advocates

Los residentes elegibles del condado pueden solicitar un solo pago para ayudar a cubrir una parte de sus facturas de gas y luz, así como otros beneficios para ayudar a reducir sus costos de servicios públicos.

communityadvocates.net/what-we-do/energy-assistance.html

Energy Assistance UMOs

Residentes calificados de Milwaukee pueden recibir un solo pago anual para reducir el costo de sus facturas de calefacción y electricidad. Para información adicional acerca de cómo aplicar para la asistencia "Home Energy Assistance," visite a:

county.milwaukee.gov/files/county/DHHS/EnergyAssistance/MKEAPPLYSHEETSPANISHNOBLEED.pdf

Wisconsin Foreclosure Mediation Network

La Red de Mediación de Ejecuciones Hipotecarias de Wisconsin ofrece una reunión privada y gratuita donde los propietarios e inquilinos trabajan con un mediador que los ayuda a encontrar soluciones a los problemas que tienen relacionados con el contrato de alquiler y/o la propiedad de alquiler en el volante. mediatewisconsin.com/tenants-landlords

Milwaukee Justice Center

MJC ofrece una variedad de información y herramientas para asegurarse de que los residentes estén informados sobre sus opciones cuando se enfrentan al desalojo o tienen otros problemas con el propietario.

mediatewisconsin.com/tenants-landlords



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MITCHELL PARK DOMES

The County Executive's recommended budget called for the Mitchell Park Domes to be closed for a large portion of 2021. Supervisor Ortiz-Velez co-sponsored legislation to allocate funding to keep the Domes open and operational for the entirety of 2021 so the Domes can be enjoyed throughout the year.

LONG TERM GOALS: This budget cycle, Dyango Zerpa (Legislative Aide), along with the Comptroller's Office drafted a budget amendment for the 2021 budget to fund a new position to analyze possible tax credits to help fund the repairs needed on the Domes. The amendment which was authored by Ortiz-Velez's office looks to find the funding necessary for the long-term health and well being of Mitchell Park Domes.

"The Domes at Mitchell Park is one of our greatest assets and is part of Milwaukee's cultural identity. Since I was elected it has been one of my top priorities to fund the Domes and keep them operational for generations to come."

– Supervisor Sylvia Ortiz-Velez

COMMUNITY CLEANUPS

Although the pandemic carries on, Supervisor Ortiz-Velez and her office were still able to assist in hosting community cleanups in our parks. A special thanks goes out to community groups like TEAMHAVOC, B.A.D.L.I.F.E., The Brown Berets, Estilo C.C., GoodTimes C.C. as well as Rafael Mercado and Team Havoc.



Supervisor Ortiz-Velez, County Board Chair Marcelia Nicholson, Dyango Zerpa and others clean up Mitchell Park.



For legislative files, agendas, minutes and schedules for all Milwaukee County committee and board meetings, please visit the County Legislative Information Center at:

county.milwaukee.gov/CLIC

MUJERES CON PODER & KOSCIUSZKO PARK RECYCLING



The ladies of Mujeres con Poder with Supervisor Ortiz-Velez and Dyango Zerpa at Kozy Park.

Mujeres con Poder is a group of women who reside on the south side who are dedicated to making Milwaukee a healthier and cleaner city. Thanks to this group's efforts, there have been 91 new recycle bins placed around south side neighborhoods, all of which has been acquired by grant funding and will lead to around 30,000 pounds of garbage being diverted to recycling. Mujeres con Poder along with the help of Legislative Aide, Dyango Zerpa and sPARK funding, the county was able to grant matching funds for the group to start a recycling program in Kosciuszko park. This fall Supervisor Ortiz-Velez and Dyango Zerpa presented the ladies of Mujeres con Poder with an honorable citation from the Milwaukee County Board.